

CHAPTER NO. 137

SENATE BILL NO. 1351

By Bryson, Burchett, Miller, Hagood, Williams, Black, Beavers, Burks, Chism, Cohen, Cooper, Crowe, Crutchfield, Finney, Ford, Fowler, Harper, Haynes, Henry, Herron, Jackson, Ketron, Kilby, Kurita, Kyle, McLeary, McNally, Norris, Curtis S. Person, Jr., Ramsey, Southerland, Tracy, Mr. Speaker Wilder

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1869

By McMillan, Maddox, Maggart, Mr. Speaker Naifeh, Coleman, Fowlkes, Cobb, Marrero, Swafford, Sargent, West, Bone, Winningham, Harwell, Lynn, Casada, Shaw, McDonald, Davis, Yokley, Hill, Gresham, Clem, Eldridge, Pleasant, Ferguson, Campfield, Sontany, Bowers, Dunn, Odom, Hensley, DuBois, Phillip Johnson, Rowland, Fitzhugh, Litz, Niceley, Hargett, Harry Brooks, Baird, Watson, Overbey, Russell Johnson, McKee, Roach, Moore, Stanley, Bunch

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 1 and Title 68, Chapter 3, relative to international adoptions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-106, is amended by designating the existing subsection (c) as (c)(1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (2) thereto:

(2) (A) When a Tennessee resident adopts a child in a foreign country in accordance with the laws of the foreign country and such adoption is recognized as full and final by the United States government, such resident may file with a petition a copy of the decree, order or certificate of adoption which evidences finalization of the adoption in the foreign country (together with a certified translation thereof, if it is not in English) and proof of full and final adoption from the United States government with the clerk of the chancery or circuit court of any county in this state having jurisdiction over the person(s) filing such documents.

(B) The court shall assign a docket number and file and enter the documents referenced in subdivision (A) with an order recognizing such foreign adoption without the necessity of a hearing. Such order along with the final decree, order or certificate from the foreign country shall have the same force and effect as if a final order of re-adoption were granted in accordance with the provisions of this Part.

(C) When such order is filed and entered, the adoptive parents may request a report of foreign birth pursuant to § 68-3-310 by submitting an Application for Report of Foreign Birth.

(D) Individuals obtaining a report of foreign birth under the provisions of this subsection are exempt from the disclosure of fees requirements of Title 36, Chapter 1.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect June 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.
PASSED: April 21, 2005


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 9th day of May 2005


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR